

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of)
 Peter Francis LEADLAY et al.) Examiner: Not Yet Assigned
 Application No.: 09/214,453) Group Art Unit: Not Yet Assigned
 Filed: January 5, 1999)
 For: POLYKETIDES AND THEIR)
 SYNTHESIS)

HLB
2/29/00
CN

SECOND PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Please amend the following claim:

Claim 1, line 2, delete "a first nucleic acid portion or portions" and insert

~~AT B1~~
 --at least one first nucleic acid portion--;

Please add the following new claims:

24. A hybrid PKS gene according to claim 2 wherein said at least one first nucleic acid portion encodes a loading module together with the ketosynthase ("KS") domain (only) of the homologous extender module.

25. A hybrid PKS gene according to claim 2 wherein said loading module is capable of loading a substrate to produce a starter unit different from a starter unit normally associated with said at least one extension module.

26. A hybrid PKS gene according to claim 2 wherein said loading module is capable of loading any of a multiplicity of different starter units.

27. A hybrid PKS gene according to claim 26 wherein said loading module is an avr loading module.

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sub E11
B2

A2

Sub I1

sub E50